

VZCZCXRO4332
PP RUEHLA
DE RUEHMD #0468 1341310
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 141310Z MAY 09
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0629
INFO RUEHDM/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS 0363
RUEHLA/AMCONSUL BARCELONA 3977
RUCPDOC/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC

UNCLAS MADRID 000468

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

STATE FOR NEA/ELA A.MONZ AND EUR/WE S.ZERDECKI/E.SAMSON
STATE ALSO FOR EEB/ESC/TFS C.BACKEMEYER
COMMERCE FOR BIS T.CHRISTINO, J.SONDERMAN, J.JEST

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: EAIR ETRD ETTC PGOV PREL SP SY

SUBJECT: REACHING OUT TO THE GOS RE ORION AIR

REF: A. MADRID 462
1B. STATE 47933
1C. MADRID 439
1D. MONZ-DUDLEY E-MAIL 5/4
1E. MADRID 413
1F. SECSTATE 41098

(SBU) Following up on refs A and B, econoff spoke at length May 14 with Jose Luis Rodriguez de Colmenares, Deputy Director for Economic Relations with OECD countries at the MFA and provided additional background on the events leading to the issuance of the TDO to Orion Air. Colmenares, who appeared well-informed of the situation, indicated that he had been in touch with other GOS agencies as well as Orion Air concerning the matter, adding that the GOS was in the process of determining its authority and position. For that reason, he made no commitment concerning our request that the GOS attempt to prevent the second aircraft from being shipped to Syria, though he stated that the GOS wanted to be helpful to the USG. Econoff stressed the urgency of the matter, noting post's understanding that the company planned to send the aircraft o/a May 15. Colmenares, however, expressed surprise and indicated that he understood, based on his involvement in the matter, that the second aircraft was not to be shipped until near the end of May. Post will continue to engage the GOS on this issue.

CHACON